

progressionINcorrections

APR/MAY 2007, Volume 6

Indiana Department of Correction Employee Newsletter

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From the Commissioner

Welcome to the first edition of the 2007 progressionINcorrections newsletter. There have been some changes in leadership early this year which are very exciting for the agency.

This is a very strong start to what will be another positive year in Indiana corrections. Our 2007 strategic plan highlights the major objectives in the areas of Administration, Operations and Re-entry.

While I'm not going to give you 2008 guidance in April of 2007, I will say that my confidence in our ability to meet and exceed targets remains a high priority. We have a very strong work force with 32 facilities and over 7,500 employees, who are committed to meeting and even exceeding the expectations of excellent correctional management.

For the first time in state government, we are being measured and compensated for the work we do and how well we do it. We are talking about this now because I believe you expect to work for an agency which is diversified, results-oriented and committed to positive changes.

I believe that many of you are confident with our position for 2007. However, we need to focus on staying committed to sustaining our performance. While we have many areas of strength, I'm going to concentrate on three factors that have provided significant benefits for the Agency...and will continue to do so well into the future.

The influence of these three factors on our business today is reflected in our three E's of Excellence: Employees,

Efficiencies and Effectiveness. These factors play an important role in our success. This year, we are all focused on delivery of service. It's time to Measure Up! & Follow Up!



J. David Donahue

By focusing on the key areas of business development, we can really elevate ourselves our business model. The 2007 Strategic Plan focuses on the following goals:

Administration

- Implement and sustain innovative support systems that address the needs of Central Office, Facility, and Parole staff.
- Develop and implement measures that will increase sales in traditional business and joint ventures thereby attaining financial self-sufficiency and offender employment growth.

Re-entry and Community Services

- Implement a re-entry process that successfully identifies risks and needs, programs to those needs, promotes a seamless transfer to the community, and provides offenders with opportunities to be successful upon release.
- Implement a community based correctional system that supports evidence based practices.
- Expand and develop grant funding opportunities

Story continued on page 12

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Boy Scouts Earn Public Speaking Badge

To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight" is the last line of the Boy Scout oath being learned and adhered to by Troop # 1888 of Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. January 11, 2007 marked the date of the first meeting of the Boy Scout Troop that was created for the growth of juvenile offenders housed at the facility.

Work on the first merit badge, Public Speaking, was recently completed. Requirements included an informal speech about their hometown or neighborhood and a persuasive speech about a different assigned topic. An understanding of Parliamentary Procedure and Rules of Order is another part of the Public Speaking Merit Badge.

Currently the scouts are working on the American Culture badge. Diversity of races as well as religions is studied and public speaking is required for this

badge as well. They expect to complete the second badge at the April 5th meeting and a ceremony to officially award both badges will be held shortly thereafter.

A community service project was recently adopted by the troop and collection boxes for beverage tabs to be recycled were placed throughout the facility. The Ronald McDonald House will be the beneficiary of this project. As a facility project, the scouts will be forming an Honor Guard with the intention of performing at General Assemblies, award ceremonies and other functions held at PNJCF.

Assistant Superintendent, Linda Commons, commented "The Administration of PNJCF thanks the staff and community volunteers for developing the program and mentoring the juvenile offenders." ■

Camp Summit Holds the Keys to Success

On Wednesday, January 31, 2007, Camp Summit and the Napoleon Hill World Learning Center of Purdue University-Calumet recognized 27 students for successfully completing Napoleon Hill's Keys to Success Program which is a 12-week values based program which works to help students make the connection between positive pro social characteristics and success. Leaders world wide have recognized this program for its excellence and nearly one third of the Camp Summit population graduated from this program this week. The next program offering will begin within the next few weeks as Camp Summit's goal is to have 100 percent of the population complete this important program prior to graduation from Camp Summit. ■



The Mission of the Department of Correction

The mission of the Indiana Department of Correction is to maintain public safety and provide offenders with self improvement programs, job skills and family values in an efficient and cost effective manner for a successful return to the community as law-abiding citizens.

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We welcome all submissions -

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Arizona Offenders Arrive at New Castle Correctional Facility

New Castle Correctional Facility has received 315 Arizona offenders as of March 27, 2007, and anticipates the arrival of 945 more offenders in the next 8-10 weeks. Each offender sent by Arizona will be required to meet the same medium-security classification as those sent to New Castle by the Indiana Department of Correction. The offenders will be housed separately from the Indiana offenders.

The Arizona offenders will be offered the same educational classes and programming as the Indiana offenders, but held separately. Visitation will be a little different, as the Arizona offenders will be allowed normal visitation, and

will have video visitation, which will be set up in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Correction. Contracts were established with Aramark and CMS to provide food service and medical, respectively. Arizona offenders will be ordering commissary through PEN Products.

With the arrival of new offenders, it has also brought the opportunity of 230 more jobs to the area. Currently the facility has 106 new staff in different stages of training. We are still hiring Correctional Officers, Case Managers, Unit Team Managers, Teachers, Substance Abuse Counselors and various other support staff positions. ■

Go Blue!



Central Office staff show their support for the Indianapolis Colts while donating to The Villages.

DOC staff had the opportunity to show their support for the Indianapolis Colts during the NFL playoffs and Super Bowl this year. Staff were encouraged to wear Colts apparel to work on Fridays after donating a dollar to benefit The Villages. Approximately \$500 was collected during January to support The Villages. Let's continue to support this worthy cause. ■

Thinking Outside the "Sphere"

Westville Correctional Facility's medium security section has nearly 2800 beds. It is large enough to operate both a 300 bed in-patient therapeutic community (TC) and a traditional 400-500 client outpatient substance abuse intervention program.

Typically, members of a TC have as little contact with other general population inmates as possible. They live, eat and sleep together 24 hours a day. This allows the TC to create a strong sense of family and responsibility to help each other work through recovery. On the other hand, offenders in regular out-patient programming meet twice a week in small groups of 10-20 members. They rely on a staff or volunteer instructor and tend not to develop as strong bonds of mutual support for recovery.

In-patient and out-patient clients had nothing to do with each other....until now.

Changes in Program Delivery.

The first phase of out-patient treatment is an educational component. It had previously been taught in a staff instructor-led group. The Indiana Department of Correction recognized that the material could be presented in a self-study guide. This freed up the staff instructor to concentrate on providing more cognitive-behavioral interventions requiring a higher degree of skill. However, many inmates still needed assistance with the initial educational component.

TC to the Rescue.

Shortly before their release, offenders

in the TC who have demonstrated significant improvement in recovery are advanced to a re-entry phase of treatment based upon achievement and performance. These TC members are now facilitating the delivery of the initial educational component to members of the out-patient program. By sharing their personal recovery experiences while explaining the educational component, the TC members are addressing their own drug problems from a new perspective. The new out-patient offenders better understand the basic educational information they need to proceed with treatment and receive their support from others who were recently in their shoes.

It is a win-win collaborative relationship with zero cost. ■

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility Recognized by Salvation Army for Community Service

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility was recognized on March 19, 2007 in a ceremony held by the Salvation Army. The recognition comes from the facility's efforts in providing the Salvation Army with juvenile offenders who assist with the weekly lunch program, food pantry, general maintenance and sanitation of the center.

Offenders from the facilities Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever unit (CLIFF) have provided these services to the

Salvation Army on a regular basis. CLIFF program developed to provide intensive substance education, recovery and relapse prevention programming for youth with methamphetamine abuse or those with extensive drug use and addiction. The program, which began in December 2005, is the first juvenile program of its type to be implemented inside a correctional facility.

To date, the program has released 46 program graduates. ■

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility Holds First Graduation Ceremony



On Thursday, March 15, 2007, the Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held its first commencement ceremony for 12 high school graduates. The graduates successfully completed the General Education Development (GED) test administered under the direction of the Department of Education. Jonathon Ray, President of the Fort Wayne Urban League, spoke to the graduates reminding them that it is never too late to start over and asking them to repeat the mantra, **"If it's to be, it's up to me."**

The facility school, Northeast Junior/Senior High School, has graduated 133 students since the facility moved to its present location in 2001. This commencement was the first held at the facility to recognize and celebrate the students' achievements. Northeast Jr./Sr. High School is recognized by the Indiana Department of Education and accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement as a special purpose school. ■

DOC Superstar Making a Difference

Karen Richards left a job she loved to be closer to her son who was just starting school. There she was, out of work, with few prospects when she put in an application at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. The job was in the Education Department. Deep down she knew it was the perfect position for her, a place where she could make a difference. She got the job, "It was meant to be," she said. Karen knew she was hooked one day when an offender asked if he could get his GED certificate. He wanted his picture taken with it. She asked the man, "why?" he said, "I'm the first person in my family to get a GED and I'm gonna make my mamma so proud!"

Karen vividly remembers the first graduating college class. It was from Indiana State University where



Karen Richards

twelve offenders received their Associate Degrees. Today, there are 196 students taking classes at either Indiana State University or Grace College.

Today, 12 years later, Karen serves as Education Director. Karen Richards says it is not about the money for her. It is the high level of personal satisfaction she gets from the job. Her favorite day of the year? Graduation day of course! ■



Women's Prison Comes to the Help of Newborns

On March 13, 2007, the Indiana Women's Prison presented 77 newborn baby blankets, some with matching caps and booties, to the Newborns In Need (NIN) program of Indianapolis. Newborns in Need donates 75 blankets every week to Wishard Hospital and many more to other area hospitals for premature infants, underprivileged babies and funeral layettes for babies who fail to thrive. The blankets sent by the Women's Prison were enough to accommodate a one week delivery.

The yarn for the blankets is donated by various community groups and individuals. A treatment group within the Special Needs Program teaches offenders yarn skills to increase self-esteem and positive use of leisure time. Many of the offenders find their overall behavior improves when they have a quiet solitary activity to occupy them. A Special Needs Therapist of the Indiana Women's Prison leads the group by helping the offenders learn patterns, designs, teamwork and social interactions.

Program Director, Kristin Herrmann statement "I strongly believe the dedication and involvement of the offenders in programs such as this while incarcerated will play a positive role in the offenders re-entry in to the community".

Newborns in Need, Inc. (NIN) is a charity organized to take care of sick and needy babies and their families; and in cases of crisis, to help where help is needed. Founded upon Christian principles the program provides essential items without charge to those in need. NIN have been serving God's tiniest children since 1992.

The Indiana Women's Prison has a new project for the Medical Management



The beginning of a quilt for a child in Africa to send with the first shipment.

Unit's quilting group. Their goal is to make 68 crib sized or larger quilts to send to an Orphanage in Africa. All the children there, infant to 10 year olds, have been orphaned by the AIDS epidemic and many are HIV positive as well.



A beautiful crocheted blanket with a bear for one precious baby to help keep them warm.

Community volunteers from the Quilters Guild of Indianapolis teach the class of 8-14 medically challenged women to make the quilts, many of which are decorated with embroidered designs. In the past, the Quilting Group has supplied hospital neonatal units with premie-sized quilts, given full sized quilts to a homeless shelter and the Soldiers and Sailors' Home. ■

Help Wanted



A Westville Correctional Facility staff member assists an applicant at the Job Fair.

The "help wanted" sign was put to good use at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. The facility recently hosted a Job Fair to fill 67 positions including 38 correctional officer openings. Numerous facility departments set up informational displays and answered job seekers questions about working in a maximum-security prison.

State Personnel staff helped put the word out, with ads placed in several area newspapers. Over 100 applicants visited the facility for the fair.

By the end of the day, the facility had 47 correctional officer applications with 34 recommended for jobs.

Participants said when you think of working in a prison you only relate to what you see on television or in the movies. The "on location" job fair eased their reservations and gave them a much better understanding of the many exciting and challenging jobs available with the Indiana Department of Correction.

Log on to the recruitment website: www.in.gov/jobs ■

DOC Staff Pitch-In at Second Helpings



Commissioner J. David Donahue and Department staff from the Indianapolis area rolled up their sleeves and volunteered their time and services at Second Helpings, Inc. in March. Twenty-four staff members volunteered to serve as Kitchen Assistants, providing support in preparing approximately 6,000 meals and also helped with the clean up following the food preparation.

Second Helpings rescues prepared and perishable food, re-prepares it into nutritious meals and distributes those meals to over 50 social services organizations that feed Indiana's hungry daily. ■



Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility Hosts First PLUS Graduation

The Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted its first PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) graduation in January. Twenty-four of the forty-six graduates performed a song and dance during the ceremony which also included speeches by Superintendent Steve McCauley, a student graduate and the keynote speaker, Commissioner J. David Donahue. This is the first graduation ceremony for any juvenile PLUS Unit in the state.



IJCF Superintendent Steve McCauley and Commissioner J. David Donahue at the PLUS Unit Graduation.

The PLUS Unit program is 16 weeks and focuses on strengthening spiritual, moral, and character development as well as life skills. The offenders are required to attend two

groups, Power Source and Renewing the Mind, which focus on developing an ethical/moral code and a Purposeful Life Plan. ■

Pendleton Correctional Facility Recognized Inside/Out Dad Graduation

The first graduates of the Pendleton Correctional Facility's Inside/Out Dad Program were honored during a ceremony conducted at the Facility on Saturday March 3, 2007. The initial graduating class consisted of eight offenders housed at the Facility's Level One Outside Dormitory. Following the presentation of "Certificates," refreshments were served and offenders visited with family members who attended the graduation. Two additional Inside/Out Dad classes are being conducted inside the walls of the Facility and graduation ceremonies for these groups are currently being planned.

The Inside/Out Dad Program is one of many innovative strategies implemented



Counselor Sarah Peckham with offenders proudly displaying "Certificates of Completion."

by the National Fatherhood Initiative which teaches offenders to connect with their children on the inside and prepares them for lasting relationships with their family when they get out. ■

History through Time

1916

Jeannette Rankin, of Montana, is the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

1933

Frances Perkins is appointed secretary of labor by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, making her the first woman member of a presidential cabinet.

1964

Margaret Chase Smith, of Maine, becomes the first woman nominated for president of the United States by a major political party, at the Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

1981

Sandra Day O'Connor is appointed by President Reagan to the Supreme Court, making her its first woman justice.

1989

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, of Florida, becomes the first Hispanic woman elected to congress. She serves in the U.S. House of Representatives.

1997

Madeleine Albright is sworn in as U.S. secretary of state. She is the first woman in this position as well as the highest-ranking woman in the United States government.

2007

Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) becomes the first woman Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Women's History Month

In celebration of Women's History Month in March the Department would like to recognize some outstanding women in corrections. These are just a few of the exceptional women who we have the honor of working with at the Indiana Department of Correction.

Who's Who?

Stacy Doane-Selmier

Title: Parole District Supervisor at Columbus and Plainfield
Years in Corrections: 13

What motivates you?

Challenges, Competition, and Completion of tasks

Who is your mentor and why?

My parents, because they instilled good morals, values and a strong work ethic. They have been supportive and encouraged me to always strive for further accomplishments. They taught me to always look on the bright side of things.

Last book you read:

Who moved my cheese?
By Spencer Johnson, M.D.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

People to be more respectful of cultural diversity.

Tricia C. May

Title: Southern Regional Director - Parole
Years in Corrections: 14 years

What motivates you?

My children and having the ability to make a difference in their lives

Who is your mentor and why?

My Mother is my mentor. She has been my strength through my entire life and has supported me in all my decisions good and bad.

Last book you read:

Don't laugh, but who has time to read for fun. My last book I read was the ACA manual and the Parole Manual.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

I would want to have enough money to allow my parents to retire comfortably and for me to have enough time and money to enjoy it with them.

Yvette D. Salinas

Title: Parole District 6 Supervisor
Years in Corrections: 10 years

What motivates you?

Being able to recognize "CHANGE" that I actually played some part in. Being a Leader in the field and actually knowing that someone is following.

Who is your mentor and why?

I have several, but to me, I know the people who I DON'T want to be like, those people are MY Mentors because I try NOT to do what they do.

Last book you read:

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

That's easy, I would make the "SMART KID" the "COOL Kid", instead of the "BULLY", "Gangster", "Class Clown". How different our world would be if the "Smart Kid" was the "Cool Kid"

Story continued on page 8

Women's History Month

Story continued from page 7

Victoria L. Fafata

Title: Parole District Supervisor
Years In Corrections: 15 years with 6 more Years In Juvenile Probation

What motivates you:

The desire to help others.

Who is your mentor and why?

Bill Thomas was my supervisor in probation when I first started in the field. He showed me patience and the love for the work.

Last book you read:

Star Wars—Revenge of the Sith

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

For people to see the truth in others and appreciate them for that truth and their beliefs.

Amanda Brown-Bryant

Title: Unit Team Manager at IJCF
Years in Corrections: 14 years

What motivates you?

My four beautiful children and my grandmother who at 87 years old has more spirit and spunk than a 20 year old woman. My spiritual background also keeps me focused.

Who is your mentor and why?

My great Aunt Ann was and still is my greatest aspiration in life.

Last book you read:

"The Purpose Driven Life" and the Bible.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

If I could change one thing in the world it would be the American family. I think we need to focus on helping families stay together and helping educate parents. ■

Watch Us Grow!



Babies Cecilia and Ronnie are the latest additions at Putnamville.

Spring is in the air at the Putnamville Correctional Facility!

Say hello to baby "Cecilia" and baby "Ronnie." Named after IDOC's finest, the first, two, pure- bred, Black Angus heifers were born on Friday, February 12th and Monday, February 19th weighing 75 lbs each. Two additional calves are expected to be born within the next couple of months, and, a total of forty calves are expected to be delivered later this year. In Addition, twenty- six of the facility's forty goats will "kid" in mid- March.

If productivity is the scale of success, what a great job our farm-line supervisors and support staff are doing! ■



The goat population is expanding quickly.



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Miami Correctional Facility

Health and Fitness Fair

More than 80 staff members at Miami Correctional Facility participated in the facility's first Health and Fitness Fair January 24, 2007. The facility's INShape Committee sponsored the program with representatives from Dukes Memorial Hospital, Howard Regional Health System, Redimed, Miami County YMCA, Miami County Tobacco Awareness Group, Curves of Peru, Breakaway Bike and Fitness Shop and the Mayor's Wellness Council.

Staff were given information on Nutrition, Heart Health, and pharmaceuticals. Also available were blood pressure checks, glucose



More than 80 employees took advantage of the tests offered at the first Miami Correctional Facility Health and Fitness Fair.

checks, spirometry testing/asthma, and a trainer was also available to work with staff on how to use the equipment in the MCF Fitness Center. ■

Offenders Offer Straight Talk to Students

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) hosted 138 students and teachers from Delphi Middle School recently for its Straight Talk program. The facility often has groups visit the facility for programs, but they are usually smaller in number. This is only the second largest group to visit at one time at MCF.

The program is designed as a way for MCF to give something back to the community. It is the desire of those running the program to help youth and young adults avoid the growing problems of crime, violence, and alcohol and drug abuse. The goal is to produce a positive program in which those youth involved will hear the truth. There is no age restriction in this program. We hope to instill the reality and consequences of crime.

The purpose of the program is not to scare the young people, but to cause



Offenders, Jonathon Maddox, Brian Giltner, David Folwer speak to students.

them to think about the results of making bad choices.

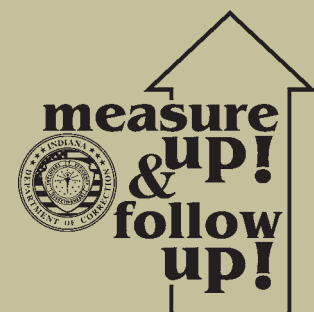
Offenders participating in the program have been screened, selected and interviewed by members of the prison staff. The offenders have an understanding of what their roles are in the program, and they are all volunteers. ■



Everything
is measurable.
Follow through.



It's up to you.



State Employees Win Contracts to Manage 3 Department Re-Entry Centers

Governor Mitch Daniels announced on February 20, 2007 that state employee groups in South Bend and Indianapolis submitted the winning bids to administer services at the state's three Department of Correction community re-entry centers. The state will save nearly \$750,000 annually and increase employment opportunities and services for offenders at the three facilities, one in South Bend and two in Indianapolis.

The three centers – South Bend Re-entry Community Center, Indianapolis Men's Work Release and Indianapolis Women's Work release – serve 344 offenders. There are 21 employees in South Bend, 31 at the men's facility Indianapolis, and 26 at the Indianapolis women's facility.

The employees reduced costs in their proposal by suggesting a streamlined

process to purchase supplies, using existing resources for services such as substance abuse treatment, and increasing bed capacity to use space more efficiently.

"I am very excited that state employees were able to show an exceptional value compared to private businesses by offering an effective and efficient use of tax dollars to run this new business model," said Department of Correction Commissioner J. David Donahue.

The centers focus on three vital phases of a successful re-entry plan before release: employment, housing and transportation. Opportunities include jobs in warehouses, construction, telemarketing and food services. Local resources include educational opportunities, faith-based groups and partnerships with local businesses and non-profit organizations. ■

Getting INShape



Diana Williams, Director of Re-Entry made the decision to get INShape and has lost 45 pounds and over 34 inches in the last 12

weeks. Diana's goal is to lose 100 pounds by the end of 2007, she has opted to stick to a diet of nutritional shakes and food bars supplemented with salad and fresh vegetables as well as increased her exercise plan. With the support of her family and friends, Diana has lost four dress sizes and is looking forward to continuing to feeling better and having more energy. "It's all about making different choices," stated Diana, "I understand losing weight is not an event, but a choice I made to change my lifestyle."

Congratulations Diana! ■

Miami Correctional Facility to Host the First Prison Mini-Relay

Miami Correctional Facility will host the first Prison Mini-Relay in the Nation on Saturday, April 21. Sponsoring the first Mini-Relay are the offenders from the facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit.

The PLUS unit provides an opportunity for offenders to explore and choose alternatives to criminal thinking and behavior through an emphasis on spiritual moral and character development, life-skills training, and intentional preparation for living as law-abiding citizens who contribute to the well-being of their community.

A Community Service component is built into the PLUS curriculum to teach the offenders the importance of giving back to their community. It also allows them to demonstrate a willingness to right

the wrongs that their criminal behavior has brought upon the community. The offenders are required to perform more than 300 hours of community service during the 16-month program.

The offender's donation will give them the opportunity to walk in the Mini-Relay event. Luminaries will be produced by the PLUS Unit offenders "In Memory" or "In Honor" of a loved one who has passed or who has survived cancer.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity, and is the largest non-profit fundraising event in the world! It involves the whole community: schools, businesses, churches, clubs, and families - young and old. Relay For Life is usually an overnight event, but the Mini-Relay is designed to be done on a smaller

scale. The "Mini-Relay" will be an all-day event complete with music supplied by Karaoke Fantasies and DJ services with Lester Jeffries, refreshments from Kroger, and decorations and posters made by the PLUS offenders. All money raised by the PLUS Unit will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

"Relay is such a unique event and this is the first time that we know of that it has taken place at a correctional facility. We felt that this was an amazing opportunity for the offenders to pay tribute to loved ones affected by cancer as well as give back to the community," said Angie Reinhardt, community representative, American Cancer Society. "Most of all it is a great and empowering way to make a difference in the fight against cancer."

Story continued on page 9

Offenders Help Kids Make History

On Tuesday, March 13, 2007, Commissioner J. David Donahue presented a variety of kid's costumes to Conner Prairie, which were made by Indiana Department of Correction offenders at Rockville Correctional Facility.

Indiana 4th and 5th graders participate in their school's Pioneer Days annually to learn about the early days in Indiana's history. The school children are encouraged to dress in costume during Pioneer Days. Many schools visit Conner Prairie, the living history museum, to learn about early American life in Indiana.

The Conner Prairie Museum Shop will showcase the boys and girls costumes sewn by female offenders at the Rockville Correctional Facility in the PEN Products industries shop. The girls' set includes: dress, apron & day cap and the boys' set includes: a white cotton shirt, vest, kerchief and flat-top straw hat.



Commissioner J. David Donahue joins kids at Conner Prairie.

"Conner Prairie is delighted with the success of the partnership with PEN Products as it enables us to fulfill the many requests we receive from parents, grandparents and schools looking for historic outfits for children," said Ellen Rosenthal, Conner Prairie president and CEO. "By wearing our early American clothes, children will be better able to imagine themselves in the past."

The costumes will be available at the Conner Prairie Museum Shop in assorted cotton prints and styles. ■

40 Years at Indiana State Prison



ISP Officer receives seniority award for 40 years of service.

Recently, eight staff members from the Indiana State Prison received seniority awards, among them was Officer James P. Thorp who received an award for 40 years of service with the Indiana Department of Correction. James entered the military after high school and when he was discharged he became a correctional officer in 1967. Officer Thorp has spent his entire adult life serving the public. Superintendent Buss said, "Officer Thorp is an excellent example of a dedicated correctional officer who has served the citizens of the state with honor and integrity." ■

PEN Products Operations at Rockville

The Rockville Correctional Facility PEN Products operation manufactures a wide variety of items. There are three different types of mattresses manufactured; a high density foam mattress, a hospital foam mattress and a mattress with a built-in pillow. Clothing is another large production line. PEN traditionally made one standard offender uniform for both male and female offenders. A few years ago, PEN tailored the uniform for the female offender. The RTC PEN operation now manufactures for female offenders khaki pants and shorts, long and short sleeve tunic shirts and maternity shirts. Coats are produced for both male and female offenders along with white t-shirts for male offenders. The newest item produced

by PEN at Rockville is the "Conner Prairie" clothing line. In a joint venture by PEN and Conner Prairie, children's costumes from the 1800's are sewn. Included are girl's dresses with an apron and a day cap. For the boys, shirts with waist coats and neckerchief are sewn. PEN also has a crochet line. These offenders crochet green sweaters for sale on commissary.

There are approximately 81 female offenders employed by PEN. The production lines run seven days a week from 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The supervisors have developed a schedule allowing the offender to participate in programs such as, GED, college courses, or substance abuse treatment. ■

MCF to host the first Prison Mini-Relay continued from page 8

Miami Correctional Facility has had a team of employees who have participated in the actual Miami County Relay For Life for the past two years. This year, they have partnered with the PLUS Unit in trying to raise even more money for ACS. This event also has served as an educational opportunity and been utilized in another part of the PLUS curriculum – The Healthy Living portion. The offenders are learning about how to avoid the disease and are sharing their information through posters that will be displayed along the walking route during the event. ■

Letter from the Commissioner *continued from page 1*

Operations

- Provide and maintain a safe and secure correctional environment for the protection of the public, staff and offenders.
- Develop a plan to capture and report operational data and to improve efficiency in meeting the long-term operational objectives and the goals of the Department.

Finance and Performance

- Develop a plan to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the finance division of the Department.
- Establish standards of high performance and a system of measurements to validate that performance in regards to the Contract Division.
- Identify, replicate, and promote Indiana DOC Correctional Best Practices

- Improve the Facility Strategic Planning process for maximum efficiency and operational effectiveness.

In all of these business areas, employees play a vital role. As stewards of public safety, we have to ensure that internal cost structure improvements are both efficient and effective. In doing so, we can focus on delivering programs with performance, reliability and a reduction in the rate of recidivism.

We believe these changes will lead to a dramatic improvement in paving the path to re-entry. We have to exceed our goals from last year and dream big.

The breadth and depth of our correctional expertise has already given us an edge in meeting the standards for ACA and other national organizations.

Not only does our staff have the superior ability needed to integrate the critical components with correctional management, they also work together in an open environment that fosters innovation.

It's a competitive advantage for Indiana and will continue to give us an enormous edge well into the future to help us reach our goal of reducing the rate of recidivism. Our programs give us confidence that our staff will provide the superior services at a low cost.

I am confident that we will not only meet our expectations for 2007, but for 2008 as well. Keep up the great work! ■

Offenders Serve Communities and Save City Thousands of Dollars

The Henryville Correctional Facility has increased its crews to provide assistance to state, county and local municipalities. In 2005, the facility began with five crews and now has expanded to eighteen crews due to an increase in demand.

The crews provide a variety of services to Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), local cities and not-for-profit organizations. These offender work crews complete tasks that would otherwise not get accomplished or fall low on the priority list.

The City of Scottsburg credits the offender crew with an annual savings of \$142,000. The crew allows the city to maintain a groomed appearance by painting the interior and exterior of city buildings and beautifying the city parks

by cutting grass, weed eating, planting flowers and picking up trash.

Henryville Correctional Facility provides work crews to five Department of Natural Resource locations in three counties. Having offenders at the Vallonia Tree Nursery located in Jackson County impacts that division with a cost savings of \$1,100 per day. The crew allows the State of Indiana to provide inexpensive planting stock for the reforestation of land in the state. Without this assistance the cost of the seedlings would be prohibitive for a significant number of conservation efforts.

Henryville Correctional Facility has also been active in Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill and other not for profit organizations. A total of 230,578 man hours were provided by Henryville offender crews during 2006. ■

PREF Participates in Mock Fire Emergency



Two Plainfield Fire Department fire engines deploy firefighters as part of the mock emergency drill.

As a testament to the Indiana Department of Correction's concern for safety, the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility (PREF) performed a mock fire emergency drill this week. The drill included inviting the Plainfield Fire Department (PFD) to PREF and filling the recreation building with artificial smoke. Both PREF staff and PFD staff participated in the event. The drill helped illustrate the need for emergency preparedness in correctional facilities and was a learning experience for everyone involved. ■

PREF Strives for Success

After opening more than a year ago, the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility (PREF) strives to be the national model for a re-entry facility. PREF has been able to accomplish new achievements in many areas, including partnerships with outside agencies and departments to having Unit Management Teams partner with community service organizations. PREF has been able to build upon its clothing room, Dress for Success, through donations from groups, organizations, and with the help of legislators. The clothing room allows PREF to release

residents with professional clothing versus state issued khaki. The staff at the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility has also worked to better utilize the Re-Entry Accountability Plan (RAP) as a tool to manage residents lives. A resident meets monthly with his Re-Entry Specialist to ensure involvement in programs and interventions that are deemed necessary based upon the RAP. PREF Superintendent Michael Lloyd is dedicated to ensuring that PREF provides each resident the tools necessary to succeed upon his re-entry to the community. ■



Indiana Launches Statewide Victim Notification Network

On January 26, 2007 Governor Mitch Daniels outlined the state's plans to help victims of crime track the status of an offender housed in Indiana. The Department has begun implementation of the new Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) network, the result of legislation approved unanimously in 2005.

The automated network will allow Indiana residents to receive real-time information about the custody status of offenders in all 92 counties. They can register to be notified about an offender's placement, release, transfer or other change. There is no cost to use the service and users can access the offender information by telephone or the Internet.

Development of the program has already started and is being launched in April. Information about 80 percent of Indiana offenders will be available by the end of this year, with the remainder added in 2008. SAVIN will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and operators will be available around the clock to answer questions or assist callers. Crime victims are anonymous while using the system.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week
Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time.

National Crime Victim's Rights Week is April 22- 28, 2007. This is a time to remember, reflect and recommit to crime victims and survivors, and those who serve them. It is an annual observance to bring the victim assistance community together to raise public awareness about victims' rights, protections and services. This year's theme, "Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time" summons the nation to action on behalf of all victims of crime and offers us all the opportunity to recommit ourselves to ensuring that every victim is afforded his or her legal rights and treated as a crucial participant on our criminal justice system.

In recognition of National Crime Victim's Rights Week, the Department of Correction will collect donations from staff and offenders to support The Villages effort in sending their children who were directly affected by crime to summer camp this year. Please contact your facility Public Information Officer to donate to this worthy cause. ■

1-866-959-8463 (VINE) Toll Free
www.vinelink.com

Lawmakers Make a Donation to PREF

State Representatives Peggy Welch and Eric Turner thanked legislators for donating men's clothing to the nation's first re-entry facility, Plainfield Re-entry and Education Facility (PREF), in February.

Representative Welch requested the donations this session from legislators to help support the Indiana Department of Correction's re-entry initiatives. "I would like to thank everyone today who helped with this project," said Rep. Welch. "I am excited to take an interest in the Department and support Commissioner Donahue's efforts in public safety."

"Thanks to Speaker Bauer, Rep. Peggy Welch and Rep. Turner and every member the state legislature who donated to the effort with Plainfield Re-entry and Educational Facility," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "The men at PREF are looking forward to the professional attire and preparing for a successful future. It's all about promoting public safety."

The 161 garments of clothes were collected during this drive and the Department hopes to make this an ongoing partnership. The collected donations will assist the offender "Dress for Success" program as they prepare for job interviews.

To make a donation, please contact Superintendent Mike Lloyd at the Plainfield Re-entry Facility, at 317.839.7752. ■

Department Hosts Summit to Address Sexual Violence in Prisons

Commissioner J. David Donahue kicked off the Addressing Sexual Violence Summit at the Indiana War Memorial, in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) on April 10, 2007. The summit focused on raising awareness about sexual violence. The theme for the 2007 conference was Silence is a Crime: Addressing Sexual Violence in Indiana Corrections: Prevention, Detection, Treatment and Adjudication.

"Sexual violence is preventable through effective collaboration, training and awareness" said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "Our position has to be zero tolerance as we continue to promote safety in our prisons. We must be in tune with the warning signs."

Over three hundred representatives from Indiana's state operated prisons and juvenile detention centers, parole districts, county sheriff's offices across the State and services providers participated in this interactive Summit, designed to share information towards addressing sexual violence in Indiana corrections.

"The presence of such a distinguished group of people indicates the seriousness with which we all see the issue of sexual violence in Indiana Corrections and the need to ensure that we, as a community, demand and defend a zero tolerance policy towards such violence," added Commissioner.

On September 4, 2003, President Bush signed into law the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003. The legislation requires the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to develop a new national data collection on the incidence and prevalence of sexual assault within correctional facilities. To address the violence locally, Indiana has established policy and procedures, trained staff department-wide, educated the offender population, designated Sexual Assault

Awareness Program Coordinators at each facility and established a Prison Rape Oversight Group (PROG) whose main goal is to eliminate sexual violence within corrections.

In 2007, the Department was awarded the "Protecting Inmates and Safeguarding Communities Grant" from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant is a result of the Prison Rape Elimination (PREA) Act of 2003, and is designed to support the State's efforts to prevent and eliminate prison rape between inmates in state and local prisons, jails and law enforcement lockup facilities and to safeguard communities where inmates return. This grant will provide funding for several projects and initiatives, including: GPS monitoring bracelets for 100 high-risk sex offenders;



PREA training for statewide parole, Community Corrections, probation, and IDOC staff; purchase of surveillance equipment at certain IDOC Facilities; identification of community service providers who can offer counseling and other services to inmates/victims.

"Our collective goal is to eliminate sexual violence and to instill zero tolerance into the minds of staff and offenders; to change the culture of facilities, institutions, jails, detention centers statewide," concluded Donahue. "Remember, silence is a crime and it's our job to make a difference." ■

Offenders Support Victims of Domestic Abuse

On March 26, 2007 Plainfield Correctional Facility Superintendent Wendy Knight presented a check in the amount of \$1,270 to Maria Larrison, Director of Sheltering Wings in Hendricks County.

The donation was a result of a facility-wide fundraiser. Over 1,100 lunches from Church's Chicken were sold to offenders and the profits were divided equally between the local charity and the facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS), a faith and character-based program.

In 2006, the Plainfield Correctional Facility was presented with the "Treating People Better" award for their community involvement in Hendricks County.



Superintendent Wendy Knight, Phil Slavens, Mark Seiver, Asst. Superintendent of Operations present check to Maria Larrison, Director of Sheltering Wings.

About Sheltering Wings
Sheltering Wings Center for Women provides emergency housing for women and children suffering from any form of domestic abuse. The shelter builds stable and independent lives through essential programs offered in a supportive environment. ■